

**Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council**  
**Planning Committee Meeting**

Wednesday, October 28, 2015, 10:00-12:00 p.m.  
Dutchess County Planning Department, 27 High Street (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor), Poughkeepsie, NY

**Meeting Summary**

**1. Introductions** – See attached list.

**2. Announcements**

Mark Debald (PDCTC) announced that Congress passed an extension of MAP-21 through November 20<sup>th</sup>, as it was set to expire on October 29<sup>th</sup>. This extension, possibly the last, will provide Congress time to pass a long-term, multi-year transportation bill in the next three weeks. The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee recently approved a measure to spend up to \$325 billion on transportation projects over the next six years. The House proposal is titled the Surface Transportation Reauthorization and Reform Act of 2015 (STRR). The Senate's comparable bill, Developing a Reliable and Innovative Vision for the Economy Act (DRIVE), was passed in July. Both are six-year transportation bill with three-years of funding.

Mark explained that based on the latest NYSDOT guidance, the PDCTC is not required to comply with NYS OML. This means that mail/email/fax ballots can be used, as was done in the past. Mark distributed the proposal to amend the 'Decision Making' section of our Bylaws, which would allow written ballots (mail or email). Bob Balkind (DCDPW) recommended clarifying the actions that would require an in-person meeting versus a written ballot. Mark noted that an executive decision would have to take place at an in-person meeting. Ray Oberly (Town of Clinton) suggested including language about ensuring voting members have received the ballot before declaring consensus. Emily suggested referencing the 'Decision Making' section of the NYMTC bylaws for guidance. Mark will make the suggested changes to the proposal and have a final draft for the next Planning Committee meeting. These amendments will be put before the Executive Committee in March 2016 for final adoption.

Mark stated that NYSDOT has issued guidance on the statewide solicitation for the [Highway Safety Improvement Program \(HSIP\)](#). This iteration of the program will closely resemble the previous two solicitations, with the application forms and program criteria mostly unchanged. However, to allow for projects with right-of-way needs or issues that may require longer development times, this solicitation will cover a three-year period (FFY 2018-2020) – though priority will be given to projects that can be delivered early in the program period. NYSDOT expects to allocate up to \$100 million in HSIP funds for the three-year period. Please note the following criteria:

1. The project must be clearly defined.

2. Provisions for local matching funds (20%) and cost over-runs will be the responsibility of the project sponsor.
3. Post implementation evaluation of the project will be the responsibility of the sponsor.
4. The project must be delivered by September 30, 2020. In order to achieve a balanced distribution of funds, priority will be given to projects that can be delivered early in the program period.
5. Proposals must include a completed HSIP Application (SP-I form).
6. The project must meet HSIP funding requirements and support the State's Strategic Highway Safety Plan.
7. Project proposals should employ a data driven approach in selecting location or programs and appropriate countermeasures.
8. Systemic projects that expand the installation of CARDS and Countdown Times to county and local roads will be given priority over other systemic projects. These projects do not need to provide crash data for submittal.

As part of this process, PDCTC staff can provide 3-5 years of crash data for local roads. Applications must first be forwarded to NYSDOT-Region 8 for their review. Region 8 will then forward eligible applications to NYSDOT-Main Office. Prospective applicants are strongly urged to coordinate with Region 8 staff as early as possible in order to ensure project eligibility. Since final applications are due to Main Office on November 30, 2015, local applications should be emailed to Thomas.Weiner@dot.ny.gov by November 13, 2015. There is a conference call taking place Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m. for any parties interested in applying for HSIP; to attend the call, please dial 1-866-776-3553 and input 649 859 611 as the access code. Questions regarding this process should be directed to the Regional Safety Engineer, Mr. Terry Donoghue at Terrence.Donoghue@dot.ny.gov or (845) 437-3324.

Mark discussed the [Cornell Local Roads Program \(CLRP\)](#) and Pavement Management Summer Intern Project. This project provides municipalities with a way to overcome some of the time constraints that limit the implementation of a pavement management system. Since most pavement management systems are implemented using computer software, the project also helps municipalities overcome the difficulties associated with learning to use the computer by providing a computer literate college intern to help get the software up and running. Ray Oberly (Town of Clinton) inquired if the software can evaluate dirt roads; Bob Balkind (DCDPW) said he would look into the matter. Bob Balkind added that a final report with local pavement conditions would be mailed to each municipality. Tom Weiner (NYSDOT) noted that this project has a high level of value as it will contribute to identifying deterioration rates on local roads. Municipalities need to confirm by February 2016 for the summer 2016 program. Dutchess County DPW has expressed interest in the program and plans to pursue this project next summer for all Dutchess County communities, using two interns at DPW.

**3. Public Participation** – Mark opened the meeting for public comment or general announcements; none were received.

**4. PDCTC Metropolitan Transportation Plan – *Moving Dutchess 2***

Overall Status & Project Schedule – The PDCTC is targeting mid-March 2016 for Council approval of the MTP. The first drafts of Chapters 1-6 have been completed and are posted on the [MTP website](#). We are working on Ch. 7 (Performance Measures) and Ch. 8 (Recommendations). As discussed at our last meeting, only digital copies of *Moving Dutchess 2* will be produced. We have also updated our crash data analysis to cover the years 2010-2014, instead of 2009-2013.

Review of Public Survey results – The PDCTC actively promoted the MTP survey, which was first issued to PDCTC contacts on July 15<sup>th</sup>, followed by a County press release to local media in early August, and then subsequently issued to County Employees. We also developed a survey flyer with a QRC code that was distributed to mayors, supervisors, and highway superintendents to post on their municipal websites, and local colleges. The survey was also made available at the August 12<sup>th</sup> senior picnic at Bowdoin Park and DC Fair. We received over 900 responses, which exceeded our 2011 survey by 500.

Mark discussed the key takeaways garnered from the countywide survey. These takeaways include:

1. Respondents ranked preserving natural areas, habitats, and farmland (65%), improving public transportation (67%), and protecting our air and water quality (76%) as top priorities to make Dutchess County a great place to live.
2. Individuals rated walking as ‘good/fair’, bicycling as ‘fair/not good’, and bus transit as ‘not good/poor’ in Dutchess County. Overall, however, the current transportation network does a ‘good/fair’ job of getting individuals where they need to go.
3. Respondents noted that the greatest impediment to walking and bicycling more is the lack of adequate and safe physical infrastructure (e.g. sidewalks, shoulders, and bike lanes).
4. Most individuals drive alone to work/school 5 days a week, but carpool, walk, bike, or use public transit for recreational purposes.
5. The most current pressing issues facing Dutchess County are the lack of safe and accessible sidewalks (58%) and the lack of safe bicycle paths and facilities (54%). These issues, as well as improving public transportation, were rated as the top investment priorities in the next 5-10 years. Respondents would support an increase in vehicle registration fees (35%) and an increase in existing tolls (34%) to meet these needs.

Randy Casale (City of Beacon) and Joe Chenier (City of Poughkeepsie) asked for the survey information related to the Cities of Beacon and Poughkeepsie, respectively.

Public Workshops – As a follow-up to our public survey, we completed six public workshops

to gather public input about the transportation issues in local communities. These workshops consisted of a brief introduction about the PDCTC, as well as interactive exercises identifying the needs and priorities in Dutchess County communities. This input will help us as we develop our new long-range transportation plan.

Ch. 6-1 – 6-5: Planning Area Chapters (Second Drafts) – Based on the feedback that was received from the surveys and workshops, we are revising the sub-area chapters for each of the five planning areas. The revised drafts and a draft of Ch. 7 (Performance Monitoring) will be reviewed at the next Planning Committee meeting.

## **5. FFY 2014-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

The PDCTC is working with DPW to update the costs and schedules for six existing highway projects. These proposed changes will likely be reflected in an upcoming Administrative Modification.

## **6. Draft FFY 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

The PDCTC received federal planning targets from Region 8, and the funding targets were lower than compared to our 2013 targets for the 2014-2018 TIP (by approx. 20 percent). For the five year period, the PDCTC has a total target of \$13.9 million for STP Large Urban and Flex combined, and \$2.2 million for STP-Off System Bridges, for a total amount of \$16.1 million federal available.

Mark distributed local project worksheet; he explained that the sheets shows the local federally-funded highway projects that have phases in the TIP period. This sheet incorporates recently submitted changes from DPW, which are under review. This also assumes that the projects that scheduled for construction in 2016 will be completed in 2016; this includes two DPW bridge projects (PIN 875591-Bridge C-19 & 875726-Bridge RH-25), and the City of Poughkeepsie's Little George/Creek/Smith Rd. roundabout (PIN 875782).

In general, without counting HPP, SRTS, or TAP projects, there are only 12 local projects on the 2017-2021 TIP (6 DPW, 4 City of Poughkeepsie, 2 City of Beacon). The discussion moved to the feasibility of accomplishing these projects within the constrained timeline and within the constrained costs. All of the DPW projects have been obligated already, but the City of Poughkeepsie projects have not. Mark noted that there is a significant shortfall in FFY 2017, which will likely necessitate some projects moving into 2018 and beyond; Mark, Bob Balkind (DCDPW), and Tom Weiner (NYSDOT) will meet to discuss this issue at a later date. Joe Chenier (City of Poughkeepsie) will discuss the feasibility of the project schedule and accuracy of the project costs with administration and report back.

NYSDOT has requested that information on the TIP update be entered into PSS by Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>. Council approval is still expected to occur in June 2016.

## 7. Project Updates

Mark announced that the project consultant for the Upper Route 9G Corridor Management Plan (CMP), VHB Engineering, is almost complete with Draft Tech Memos #1 (Existing Conditions), #2 (Crash Analysis), and #3 (Safety Assessment). The PDCTC is trying to schedule a Study Advisory Committee meeting in November, before Thanksgiving. A second public workshop is expected to be held next February, and a third in May, which would complete the project. DCDPW recently installed pedestrian beacons on CR 103 (Annandale Rd.) through Bard College.

Mark noted that over 300 traffic counts were completed this summer/fall. Currently, there is one more year on the Tri-State contract; a new RFP will need to be issued in the summer of 2016.

**8. Public Participation** – Mark opened the meeting for public comment or general announcements; none were received.

**9. Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 24, 2015** at 10:00 a.m. at the Dutchess County Department of Planning and Development, 27 High Street, 2nd Floor Conference Room, Poughkeepsie, NY.

1	Ray	Oberly	Town of Clinton	845-266-5721
2	Jim	Morena	MNR	212-340-4011
3	Shelby	Tompkins	PDCTC	845-486-3600
4	Emily	Dozier	PDCTC	845-486-3600
5	Mark	Debald	PDCTC	845-486-3600
6	Tom	Weiner	NYS DOT	845-431-5723
7	Marleen	Stein	MTA (by phone)	212-878-2080
8	Randy	Casale	City of Beacon	845-838-5011
9	Don	Beer	Town of Poughkeepsie	845-790-4736
10	Joe	Chenier	City of Poughkeepsie	845-451-4215
11	Bob	Balkind	DCDPW	845-486-2925
12	John	Gildard	Marist College	845-575-3878